Welcome to Derren Brown Tricks Volume 1

First of all – a big thanks for buying my ebook!

The effects I'm revealing in this book and some of the strongest in all of mental magic. All of these effects can be successfully performed by a complete beginner almost immediately. Please, do yourself justice though, read through the book several times and practice by speaking out loud. If you do this, I promise – you will be baffling your mates and literally be the star attraction of any party of club you go to!

I have written the instructions as concisely as possible. It has taken me a long time to work through countless magic books in order to provide this information – I've done the hard work for you, so the last thing I wanted to do is over complicate things with unnecessary information. For each trick, I have explained the Effect, the Basic Secret and then a Full Methodology which will allow you to amaze whomever you perform on.

Each of the main tricks has a full script you can use when performing. Feel free to change it to suit your needs. The words in *(italic brackets)* explain what you should be doing whilst reading the script.

What's more, I've included a special bonus effect in this ebook – check it out right at the end!

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The Invisible Touch:

Although Derren Brown did not invent the principle for this effect, you will have seen this perform this trick with 'the twins' and also 'the lap dancers' in his TV show. It is a classic trick of mentalism any completely impromptu. You can do this at any time and I've personally freaked a lot of people out whilst doing this at clubs and parties. If you want an effect to build a reputation on – read on!

Basic Effect
You ask 2 friends if they would take part in a psychological test with you. You ask one of them to close their eyes. Whilst their eyes are closed you tap their friend on the hand twice. You then ask the person with their eyes closed to open their eyes and ask them if they felt anything. They will swear that they felt two taps on their hand – even though you were nowhere near them… in fact you could even be stood the other side of the room.

The person with their eyes open will be amazed that their friend felt your touch even though she KNOWS you didn't go near her. The person with their eyes closed will be so positive that she felt 2 solid taps that initially she simply won't believe that you were nowhere near her! When everybody else watching confirms that you indeed did not touch her – the 2 friends, plus everyone else in the room will be amazed!

Basic Secret
You actually touch both people! The trick uses a concept known as 'dual reality'. Each of the friends thinks that the 'psychological test' is happening at a different time. You ask Friend 1 to close their eyes, then secretly tap their hand as you are moving towards Friend 2. After a few seconds, you dramatically (but silently) tap Friend 2. Finally you ask Friend 1 to open their eyes. The trick is complete.

Full Methodology

(You need to find two friends, who are willing to take part in the trick. In this case I have called the friends Amy and Kate. You should stand with Amy to your right, and Kate to your left. Do not make position obvious, it only needs to be approximate.)

You: Would you two like to take part in a quick little psychological test with me? I've been practicing something and want to see if it works?

Friends: Yes, OK.

You: Great! Basically I've been reading this psychology book and its talking about how twins have been reported to have extra close bonds between them – you know, they know what each other are thinking, or can feel what each other are feeling. You've heard of that right?

Friends: Yes

You: Anyway, I've been reading this paper about how this link can be created between two friends by a third person like me if I can get you to think 'in sync' with one another. What's you names bye the way?

Friends: Amy and Kate.

You: OK Amy, what I want you to do is just stand still and completely relax. I want you to look around the room and think about everything your seeing, exactly how you think Kate would see it.

(Now you should talk about things which are actually in the room, for example if your in a bar you should talk ask Amy to consider what Amy would think about the music, the bar service etc, etc. What you say specifically here is unimportant – but it creates a decoy for the real method..)

You: Amy, I want you to close your eyes and completely relax. For the next minute or so I would like you to only give me one word answers – is that ok?

Amy: Yes

You: Amy, I want you to concentrate very hard remember if you feel anything touch you. I'm going to lift you arm up in a moment, but after that – if you feel anything, anywhere I want you to remember it. Is that clear?

Amy: Yes

(At this point you should lift Amy's left arm with your left hand, so that her hand hovers around waist height. Let your right hand remain casually by your side. Once you have done this let your left hand return to your side, leaving Amy's hand 'hovering'.)

You: Kate! Watch this!

(As you say this, you should hold your index finger of your left hand up between your face and Kate's, and look Kate right in the eye. At the same time you should turn your body in Kate's direction and take a step away from Amy. As you do this, allow your 4th finger or your right hand to tap Amy's hand twice. With a little practice, you saying "Kate! Watch this!" combined with you holding your other hand up and looking her in the eye means that Kate and everybody else watching will not see you tap Amy. You should make the tap as fluid as possible. I keep my hand moving all the time and simply stick out my 4th finger twice as my hand moves close to Amy's.)

(At this point, silently, dramatically and deliberately, grab Kate's hand and tap it in exactly the same place, as you did Amy. Up until this point Kate and the audience believe that no-one has been tapped. This is the dual reality in play, they will think that it is now that Amy is feeling taps… not 10 seconds earlier.)

You: Amy, could you open you eyes please. I hope this has worked; I've only managed to do it a couple of times so far. Did you feel anything at all?

(It's important to be unsure of the result. This will stop people thinking that it is just a trick, and that you really are performing a psychological miracle.)

Amy: Yes

You: What did you feel?

Amy: Taps

You: How many taps did you feel?

Amy: 2

You: Where did you feel them?

Amy: On my hand

(At this stage Amy will probably point to the exact point, if not you can further question her.)

You: Well I'm very happy! It worked! I actually didn't touch you at all!

(At this point the true level of the effect becomes apparent, Amy will insist you touched her, but EVERYONE else in the room will be positive that you never went near her hand! People will ask you to do it again, be careful – until you are very practiced at the secret tap, a good observer might be able to spot it!)

Closing Notes

That is the basic methodology that I use when I perform the trick. I have performed it 100s of times and providing I only do it once per person, I never get caught out. Feel free to adapt the script to suit your style. Instead of a 'psychological test' you could claim that you have 'psychic powers' which let you touch people from a distance. Remember, in the script above I suggested moving just a step away from the person who's eyes are closed. There is nothing to stop you walking to the other side of the room, just tap them as you turn to walk away!

Divining a Memory:

This is a trick using Neuro-Linguistic-Programming a.k.a. NLP. NLP is a recently developed branch on applied psychology and is used extensively in modern sales training courses. Many say that it derives from hypnosis techniques – although it is not hypnosis in itself. Many have also claimed it is a dangerous, manipulative technique which can be used to take advantage of people. In this case, that is exactly what we shall do – take advantage of the sub-conscious signals our eyes give off in every day life!

Basic Effect
You ask someone to write down 3 different memories they have, on 3 slips of paper.

- A memory of an old friend
- A memory of a favourite piece of music
- A memory of a time they were in pain (like a cut or broken bone.)

You ask them to throw away two of the slips of paper, but not letting you see which one they keep. You can then instantly announce just by looking at their eyes which memory they are holding in their hand.

Full Methodology
NLP includes a system of 'eye accessing cues.' These are used to read information about a person through the direction they are looking with their eyes. It is similar to reading body language. It is commonly known that if someone is stood upright with their arms folded they are being defensive. Luckily 'eye accessing cues' are not so commonly known – and Derren Brown uses these regularly in his performances.

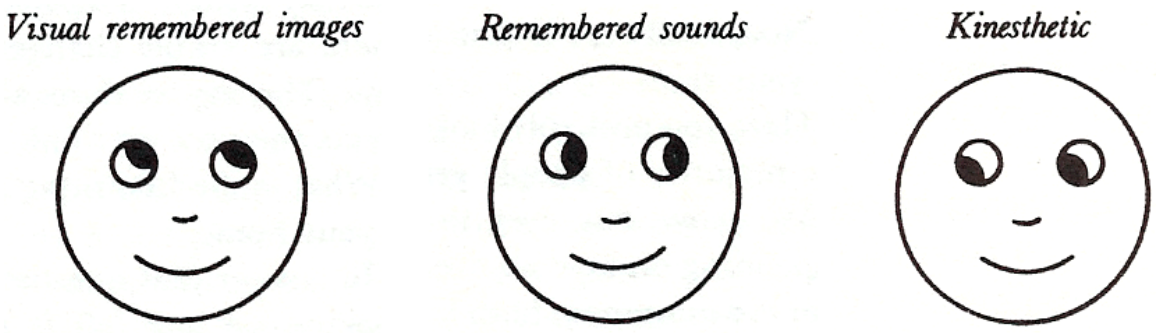
The NLP system of eye accessing cues that is required for this effect work for 'memories' only. If you ask someone to think of something that will happen in the future, or a dream – this will not work. It must be a memory.

NLP eye accessing cues, are based on our five senses. You will see from the list of 3 memories above that 3 senses are covered:

Old Friend – Visual Image
Piece of Music – Audible Sound
Pain – Kinaesthetic (which means touch)

If you ask someone to visualise in their 'minds eye' a memory of an image, sound or touch, they will tend to look in a specific place each time. You may have noticed it yourself if someone asks you a question that you can't quite remember the answer to. You can't help but move your eyes upwards or to the side in order to remember. It is something that all people do subconsciously.

Below are the directions that 'right handed' people look when they are remembering images, sounds and touch. If the person you are performing this effect on is left handed, you must switch the directions left to right and vice versa.



You: Let me see if I can guess what your thinking of, take these 3 slips of paper and write down the name of an old friend, the name of a song, and a time when you were in pain – maybe if you cut yourself or broke a bone. Write one on each slip.

Subject: OK

You: What were the three things you wrote down?

(The subject will go through what he has written, ask him a couple of questions about each of the things he has written down. This doesn't affect the working of the trick but it allows you to claim that he gave out clues as to what he would think of whilst you were questioning him.)

You: I want you to look at the 3 slips of paper. When you are ready I want you to take two of the slips of paper and throw them away. Don't let me see which slip you have left.

(If its easier, ask him to put them in his pocket, you could even burn them to add a little to the performance, do anything to get rid of them, just make sure you can't see which ones he's getting rid of!)

Subject: OK

You: Lift your head up to face me. I now want you to visualise the memory that is written on that slip of paper. I want you to think about the exact details of the memory, think exactly what was happening and how.

(This is the key to the trick. You ask the person to lift their head up, this will make them look at you, however you don't mention their eyes so they will still be unconsciously moving them. Be ready when you ask them to think of the exact details to see which direction they look in. Some people only look very briefly, others will continue to look. If you miss it, ask them to remember harder, visualise the memory in their mind. This should trigger their eyes to move in the required way.)

Subject: OK

You: Now just from the clues you have accidentally given off from your voice earlier and your body language – I think you were visualising .....

{All you now need to do match the direction they looked, with the memory they wrote down. For example if they looked up and to the right, you know they were thinking of their old friend. The great thing about this wording is that you do not mention their eyes at all. You claim that it is all to do with body language and the verbal clues they gave you. This means you can repeat the effect as many times as you want!)

Closing Notes

This trick is excellent when you repeat it. You will find during practice that some people are much easier to read than others. That's why Derren Brown chooses these 'easy to read' people for some of his bigger effects. When you find someone that you can consistently get it right with, create an audience and amaze them all. 10/10 correct predictions should do it!

PIN Number Prediction:

Imagine knowing something that would normally be impossible to know. For example you might want to reveal someone's surname, even though you never met them before. You might want to know what their best friend's hamster is called. Whatever it is, this Prediction effect will allow you to do so. In this case we will reveal the PIN number of a person's bank account.

Basic Effect
You ask to borrow a pen and pencil from the subject. You confirm with them that they have a PIN number for their bank and that there is no way you could possibly know it. You write down a 4 digit number and return them the pencil. You ask them your pin number and it matches what you have written on the paper.

Full Methodology
To perform this effect you need what is known as a 'Swami Gimmick'. This is a small device, which looks a little like a thin flesh coloured rubber band with a pencil nib in it. You can buy them from any magic store. They are designed for secretly writing information. If you don't want to buy a swami gimmick, you can just break a piece of lead off the end of a pencil and wedge it under one of your finger nails. Personally I don't use a swami gimmick, I find that lead from a pencil works brilliantly.

Before you try to perform the trick; take a piece of lead, find a way to attach it to your finger, I put mine just under my nail sticking out. If you bite your nails a tiny bit of sticky tape will work to hold it in place. Practice writing with the gimmick, try to make it look as much like your handwriting as possible.

You: Have you got a pen and pencil I can borrow there?

Subject: Yes

You: Great! Now let me just get things straight…. You've got a bank account with one of those plastic cards – is that right? You have a PIN number for the card? Is that right? You've kept it secret, so there is no way that I could know it… is that right?

Subject: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

You: OK, what I want you to do is hold out your hand, place it flat on the table; I just need to be holding onto your wrist for this to work.

(This is the misdirection needed for the trick. Whilst you are holding their hand, explain to them how its possible to get clues about what a person is thinking just by holding on to a part of their body. Talk about eye accessing cues using the information I gave you in the previous effect, they aren't needed for this trick – but the more ways you can distract attention away from the real method the better!)

You: Your PIN number is 4 digits long. I want you to visualise the 1st digit. Visualise it brightly in your mind, draw the shape of the number with you mind, let it burn and image there. Keep visualising…. *(allow a few seconds of silence to pass)* Stop.

(You need to repeat this visualisation process for each of the 4 numbers. At this point you should pretend to write a 4 digit number down. Just move the pencil across the paper very lightly, so it makes a noise as if you are writing but doesn't leave more than a very faint mark. Make sure the subject can't see that you've not actually written anything.)

You: Right, I've made my prediction, take the pencil back.

(Don't make a big deal of passing the pencil back to them. However, the mere fact that you don't have the pencil any longer will remove any suspicion that you have another way to write with the swami gimmick!)

You: What is your PIN number?

Subject: 1234

You: So it would be pretty amazing if I got that right?

(By asking the above question, you are delaying things by just a couple of seconds – this gives you the time to write the number they have just told you on the paper with the swami gimmick (or the pencil lead stuck in your nail.) With practice you will be able to write with just one hand, so you can be waving the piece of paper around as you are writing!)

Subject: Yes

You: Take a look at this!

Closing Notes

This is truly incredible effect. It is a very simple concept, but magicians frequently sell tricks based on this effect alone for many pounds. You can of course do it with anything! I've gone up to girls at clubs and bet them a kiss I can guess their second name – and it's worked. Try it on people you've just met and win a drink out of it! People really are truly amazed – because they never consider the mere existence of the pencil lead!

Bonus Effect – Coin Date Prediction

I've added this effect in as a little bonus. It's not as strong as the others, but I only found out about it myself the other day. You don't get a whole script like for the other effects, so if you're looking for that, stop reading now! I just thought I'd throw it in here as a little freebie for you!

No matter what country you live in, new coins are released from time to time. In the UK a new version of the 10p came out in 1992. This meant that in 1992, all the old style 10p coins in circulation had to be collected and new 10p coins were issued in their place. Of course new 10p coins are made every day, but the majority are dated 1992. This means that there is a very high chance that a 10p coin will be dated 1992 (although as the months go on, the effect becomes less reliable.)

If you don't live in the UK don't worry. Just look for a coin who's design has changed in the last 15 years and use that. If the change is very recent, people may work it out as they will remember that it is a new design. After 5 years or so however, that will not be the case.

Just ask someone if they have a 10p coin in their wallet. Ask them to get it out and look at the date… but tell them you don't want a coin that says 1996. (1996 was another year when a lot of 10p coins were issued, by saying you don't want 1996 you increase you chances of being correct.)

Once they have found the coin, ask them to hold it in their fist. Then look in their eyes, read their body language *pretend* to do whatever fits you style so they think you are working out the date in a psychological manner.

Finally reveal 1992. When I perform the trick I first say that its 1990 something, then say its an even year. Then say "Its 1992". By revealing it in stages you get confirmation from the subject that you are right… if you are wrong then just guess!

Hope you enjoyed the ebook!